

REC'D CT/PTO 15 FEB 2002

#5/B

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: ) Art Unit:  
)  
Ehud KEINAN )  
)  
IA No.: PCT/IL99/00112 )  
) Washington, D.C.  
IA Filed: February 24, 1999 )  
)  
U.S. App. No.: 09/914,268 )  
) February 15, 2002  
National Filing Date: )  
August 24, 2001 )  
For: METHOD AND KIT FOR THE ) Docket No.: KEINAN=3  
DETECTION OF EXPLOSIVES )

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination upon the merits, kindly amend  
as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

B1 3. (Amended) A method according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the solvent is selected from the group consisting of lower alkanols, dimethylsulfoxide, N, N-dimethylformamide, carboxylic acids, especially acetic acid and trifluoroacetic acid, and sulfonic acids.

B2 5. (Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the strong acid is selected from the group consisting of H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, HCl, HBr, HClO<sub>4</sub>, H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>3</sub>, H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> and HNO<sub>3</sub>.

8. (Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the pH is adjusted by said buffer to about 5.0 to about 9.0.

B3 9. (Amended) A method according to Claim 8, wherein the buffer is about 0.01 to 0.5 M citrate/phosphate buffer.

10. (Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the peroxidase enzyme is Horseradish peroxidase.